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For the Watchman and Journal.

STANZAS ON SPRING.

BY THE LATE HUGH MOORE.

Every breeze that passes o'er us—
Every stream that leaps before us—
Every tree, in sylvan brightness,
Bending to the soft wind's lightness,
Every bird, and insect humming,
Tell us, sweetly, "Spring is coming!"

Rouse thee, boy! the sun is beaming
Brightly in thy chamber now;
Rouse thee, boy! nor slumber, dreaming
Of the misty morn'g's dew;
Rise, o'er nature's wide dominion,
Beauty reveals a bride;
All the plumage of her pinion
To the rainbow's bow is tied!

Gentle maiden, vainly weeping
O'er some loved and fallen one;
Rouse thee, girl! thy tears in keeping
To the glorious morning sun!
Rise, where the flowers are springing—
Where the whirling stream goes by—
Where the birds are sweetly singing,
Underneath a blushing sky!

Rouse thee, hoary man of sorrow,
Let thy griefs no more subside;
Let thy cheerless brow no more
Gloom with its shadowy shade;
With a prospect ever new!
Though you weep the tears of sadness,
Like a withered flower bedewed—
Soon thy smiles shall play in gladness
With the hues of joy and good!

Frosty winter, cold and dreary,
Trotters to the arms of Spring;
Like the spirit, and the dreary,
Taking an immortal wing!
Cold the grave to every bosom,
As the winter's keenest breath;
Yet the buds of joy will bloom
Brightly in the vale of death!

For the Watchman and Journal.

SLAVERY AND ABOLITIONISM.

MISSISSIPPI EDITOR.—Not being so happy in my former communication as to convince Amos Phelps, I reluctantly take up my subject. I will take occasion to remark, that though I am an abolitionist in sentiment and feeling, yet I am far from putting so much confidence in many of the reforming efficacy of an enlightened public opinion. I believe that the evils of society result much more from the depravity than from the ignorance of men. Some evils may be measurably corrected by enlightening the public mind; but unless the public heart is changed, others will spring up in their room, or the same exist in some new form, and wickedness will abound and increase in high places and in low. All human expedients for producing a happy state of society will result in showing the impotency of human wisdom and the strength of human depravity. Slavery in its present legalized form may be abolished by correcting public sentiment; but the cry of violence and oppression will never cease to be heard, as long as men worship pain as their god, and are lovers of pleasure more than of righteousness. Oppression, however, should be urged to break every yoke and let the oppressed go free, not at a future time, but now. No doubt the manner of urging them is of much importance. Yet truth itself, rather than the manner of presenting it, has produced the present exasperation among pro-slavery men. This is evident both from the history of moral reforms, and from the fact that Garrison and Birney are alike hated and outraged.

But to the point. Personal slavery results not from holding men in subjection against their wills, but from regarding and treating them as property, without rights of their own, and to be disposed of by others. Abolitionism, on the other hand, considers man as a being, and treating slaves as moral and social beings, having rights of their own, as well as lying under obligations to others. The child subject to his parents is not of course a slave. No one can be a slave, who is treated according to his moral, intellectual, and relative character. A person may be bound to service by his own consent or without it, he may be a prisoner at the bar, or even a convict in a state prison; and yet to all the intents and purposes of abolitionism, may be a perfect freeman.

To protect the slave in his marital rights and prevent his being sold like a beast would be only a mitigation of slavery. The master might still retain the power of holding him in ignorance, of taking his unreasonable, and of doing violence to him in a thousand ways. The slave would still be property in a qualified sense. But protect him in all his rights, and secure to him all the privileges, to which his character and capacity entitle him, and his emancipation is complete. Surely A. P. will hardly object against giving the slave such emancipation at once and without condition.

Abolitionists never thought of abolishing the relation of master and servant. Let the slave be emancipated at any rate; and then, if he needs a master, let him have one. But give him in common with white servants the privilege of choosing his own master. Let him be encouraged to labor by a just reward, not driven to it by the lash. Let the master's control be limited by law, and let him be restrained from all unrighteous exercise of power. A. P. says, "But slavery cannot exist—where the slave or servant is not entirely subjected to the will of his master." Then surely it ought not to exist under any moment. If slavery ends when the slave is placed beyond the violence and rapacity of his master, then he is not a slave, and without condition. Let there be such laws to prevent violence and rapacity as the public good may require; but let no person black or white be subjected to the will of an irresponsible master.

A. P. says, "Give the slave his freedom unconditionally and does he know how to exercise it? how to enjoy it? He might have answered the question himself by a reference to the West India Islands, where immediate and gradual emancipation are in a course of experiment. But such a reference would have been decisive against him. I will not assert that the slaves are quitted by the act of emancipation. As well as the slaveholders themselves. Masters. What advertisements. How who are about to be frequently are slaves, masters as in the West Indies, faithful, industrious, and do the master's work. They possess better qualifications for free-

As to the slaves coming by "scores and hundreds" to Walsfield, I have no more fears of it, than I have that their masters will come. But if it be necessary to restrain their emigration, let the restraint be laid too upon their masters. Emigrants who are accustomed to labor will be less troublesome at the North, than those who live without labor. If there be any privilege which the slaves are too ignorant or too vicious to enjoy, withhold it from them; but withhold the same from the vicious white man.

If the slaves should not be at once set at liberty because they would abuse their freedom, why should those white men who do abuse freedom be enslaved till they will use freedom better? The mobs and outrages, which abound in the North and South, show that slaves are not the only people to whom it is dangerous to entrust freedom. Treat blacks and whites alike. Let their freedom have the same conditions.

Amicus Populi accuses abolitionists of being "too unsparring in their denunciations," and yet he exceeds them in this very fault. He had but just before said: "The legislation of some of the slaveholding states in relation to this subject, is enough to make demons blither." I have read the Liberator for years, and I venture to say that this sentence is quite a match and I think more than a match for Mr. Garrison's bitterest denunciations. On whom does the censure of this severe sentence fall? Not on those who introduced slavery, but on those who make and sustain the existing laws—on the unfortunate, in whose favor A. P. would have us discriminate. He declares all voluntary slavery to be sinful, and says, "legislation which has for its object the unlimited perpetuation of slavery is unrighteous and unjust." Do abolitionists say harder things? What is the present legislation upon the subject of slavery but a "voluntary" and systematic effort to perpetuate its wrongs? Is the slave denied intellectual culture in order to prepare him for freedom? or is it to fit him for perpetual bondage? When will he be more fit for freedom under such legislation? If we must believe A. P., slaves would abuse freedom and masters do abuse power. Why not contend to have the master fitted before he is allowed to exercise power any longer? If A. P. has not identified the slaveholder with the man-stealer, he has at least made the discrimination difficult.

I might say much more, but dislike long articles, and therefore close. I. SMITH.

RAIL-ROAD MEETING.

Previous notice having been given, a large number of the friends of the Willoughby Lake Railroad route met at J. Robbins' Lumber, in Charleston, on the 22d ult. The meeting was called to order by Col. C. Carpenter, when Isaac Denison Esq. was called to the Chair, and Leml. Richmond appointed Secretary.

On motion, the Chair appointed the following Committee to report the business necessary to be transacted at this meeting: C. Carpenter, L. Richmond, J. Trull, Jun. On motion, the Chair appointed N. Hopkinson, D. M. Camp, and C. Cummings, a Committee to report Resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting.

After a short recess, Col. Carpenter appeared for the committee first named, and made the following report:

1st. That a committee of three be appointed to explore and select the most favorable route from Lyndon, through Willoughby Lake, to Derby Line; cause the underbrush to be removed and the same to be measured, previous to the arrival of the Engineer on said route, and to conduct the Commissioners and Engineer through said route when they shall have arrived to complete the survey.

2d. That a committee of one in each town on the route be appointed to raise funds to defray the expenses of the above exploration, and pay the same to the exploring committee, and to provide refreshments for the Engineer and his company while they remain in their respective towns.

3d. That a committee of one be appointed to correspond with the agent of the British North American Land Company, and ascertain where the St. Francis rail road route can best be united with this on Canada Line.

Agreeably to the 1st section of the report, Isaac Denison, Benl. Himmus, R. P. Robbins, were appointed Exploring Committee. Agreeably to the 2d, the following gentlemen were appointed to secure funds, &c: C. Carpenter, Derby; N. Hopkinson, Salem; J. M. Robinson, Chittenden; E. Bledget, Westmore; R. F. Robinson, Brattleboro; R. Tinker, Sutton; A. Stoddard, Newmark; G. Watson, Burke; I. Leavins, Morgan.

Agreeably to the 3d sec., His Honor Dr. M. Camp was appointed Corresponding Comtee. On motion, voted, That the exploring committee be authorized to call a meeting of the friends of this route, if thought expedient, at any future time.

Judge Camp, from the committee on Resolutions, made the following report:

Resolved, That the question of practicability and usefulness of rail-roads has been fully examined and fully tried in the U. S., and experienced and experience both have given an affirmative answer.

Resolved, That some greater facilities for transporting our produce to market, and for bringing into this section of the state the various articles of commerce necessary to our comfort and convenience, have become indispensable to our continued prosperity.

Resolved, That we will cordially and efficiently co-operate with our friends on Connecticut and Passumpsic rivers in effecting a survey of the route proposed, from the South to the North line of the State, through the valleys of those rivers.

Resolved, That the route from Lyndon through Burke and Chittenden to the North line of the State at Derby, is well worthy of the most careful examination and accurate survey, and that the friends of this route be authorized to call a meeting of the friends of this route, if thought expedient, at any future time.

STARTLING FACTS.

The following is an extract from the Report of Mr. Wiles's Committee to examine into the Executive Departments.

"Notwithstanding the committee refused to inquire into the appointment and of the removal of officers, yet several instances of retaining corrupt and fraudulent officers whose malfeasance was made known to the President and Heads of Departments, have been proved beyond cavil or dispute.

The clearest case of this kind, and that which can be proved, is the case of Joseph W. Beckles, a collector at Fort Albany, N. Jersey. He was charged on the 13th of January, 1835, with the grossest official misconduct as a collector. The charges were of embezzlement and fraud and the specifications were made. His excuses and apologies for his misconduct were proved to be knowingly and wilfully false, before a commissioner appointed by the department to take depositions in the case and to report thereon. He actually confessed himself to be guilty of the most serious charge of fraud, and offered no testimony or excuse which could, in any respect, be considered as exculpatory or in palliation. The evidence was fully reported to the department; a most false and elaborate abstract of that testimony was laid before the President, by the Secretary of the Treasury, containing scarcely any of the evidence on one of the main charges and only the exculpatory testimony on another; the President, however, as proved by the Secretary, and by Mr. Pearce read all the evidence in the case; and yet he made a decision in flagrant contradiction to the testimony of one of the witnesses (Binney), making him acknowledge what he expressly testified to the contrary of, found that it was but petty larceny in the inferior office, it was the greatest dereliction of duty and injustice to the Government on the part of his superiors, the President and Secretary. (See the entire testimony of the Honorable James Parker and Wm. Hook, Esq. contained in the printed journal hereto appended, pages 122 to 188 inclusive—See also the testimony of the Hon. G. W. Wall and Hon. D. J. Pearce.) This officer, thus detained in place, it is hardly necessary to add, and as was stated by Mr. Parker, verbally, a warm and active partisan of the present and coming Administration, taking a zealous part in political meetings and arrangements in New Jersey.

Another case of precisely similar character was proved in the instance of retaining a land surveyor, at Fort Wayne, Indiana, after he had been proved guilty of official neglect in not making his report of retaining balances due to the Government for unexpired periods of time, of receiving prohibited Bank notes of the denomination of five dollars, and of shaming the money brought to his office to purchase the public lands. (See printed documents appended to the testimony of the Hon. Balie Peyton, and his statement in relation thereto, hereto appended.)

Another instance is the case of Samuel Gwinn, a register of the Land Office in Mississippi, who has been officially charged with the grossest official misconduct and violation of the law in purchasing land at sales of the public lands under his superintendence; of which the President has been informed by a responsible person, and yet no inquiry even into his conduct has been instituted. (See the testimony of the Hon. B. Peyton, hereto appended.)

A most flagrant instance of retaining an incompetent officer is proved in the case of Herring, who was at the head of the Indian bureau. He was considered incompetent by the Secretary of War, that the Secretary sought at the session of 1831-32 to create a new office, that of Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in order to supersede Mr. Herring, or take the superintendence of those affairs from his care. He, Herring, was then receiving a salary of fourteen or sixteen hundred dollars; the Commissioner of Indian Affairs was to receive \$3000 per annum. The Secretary applied to the respective Chairmen of the Senate and House to have the law, which he drafted, passed, creating the new office. The Chairman of the Senate's Committee objected, among other reasons, that if created it might be filled with an incapable person. Pledge was given that it should be well filled. The office was created, and the same Mr. Herring was promoted to fill it by the President. (See the testimony of the Hon. H. L. White and John Bell.)

And it will be found on a strict examination of all the testimony, that not only have proscribed political partisans, as in the case of Becker, been appointed to office—that faithful and efficient officers, as in the case of McVillie, have been removed from office for opinion's sake or the want of political influence—that faithful and efficient officers, as in the case of Beckles, Spencer and Gwinn, have been retained in office after a full knowledge of their corruption and incompetency by the President and Heads of Departments; but that an officer has been promoted for services he had rendered, and who had been previously removed from office for incompetency.

A part of that time in the State of Vermont, that has been a State Federal office at the same time in violation of the State constitution, (see the constitution of the State of Vermont) that all these facts were known to the head of the Department, when he allowed the appointment, and that the account itself was permitted to be filed in such form as to conceal and suppress these facts, and to suggest on its face reasons for allowing it which could not be proved by the person to whom it was allowed.

Alexandria Gazette.

To defend a man, 1. Despise it; to seem to be disturbed about it is a way to make it believed, and stirring your defamer will not prove you innocent. 2. Live an exemplary life and then your general character will overpower it. 3. Speak tenderly of every body, even your defamers, and you will make the whole world cry shame on them who can find it in their hearts to injure one so inoffensive.

DOCT. FRANKLIN ON THE SLAVE-TRADE.

Reading in the newspapers the speech of Mr. Jackson in Congress, against meddling with the affair of slavery, or attempting to mend the condition of slaves, it put me in mind of a similar speech, made about one hundred years since by Eidi Mahomed Ibrahim, a member of the divan of Algiers, which may be seen in Martin's account of his Consulship, 1837. It was against granting the petition of the sect called Erika or Purists, who prayed for the abolition of piracy and slavery, as being unjust—Mr. Jackson does not quote it; perhaps he has not seen it. If, therefore, some of our reasoners are to be found in his eloquent speech, it may only show that men's interests operate, and are operated on with circumstances, whenever they are under similar circumstances. The African speech, as translated, is as follows:

"Allah Bismillah, &c. God is great and Mahomet is his prophet."

"Have these Erika considered the consequences of granting their petition? If we cease our cruise against the Christians, how shall we be furnished with the commodities their countries produce, and which are so necessary for us? If we forbear to make slaves of their people, who, in this hot climate, are to cultivate our lands? Who are to perform the common labor of our city, & of our families? Must we then turn to our own slaves? And there are not more compassion and more favor due to us as Mussulmans than to those Christians dogs? We have now about fifty thousand slaves in and about Algiers. This number, if not kept up by fresh supplies, will soon diminish, and the gradually annihilated. If, then, we cease plundering and taking the infidel ships, and making slaves of the seamen and passengers, our lands will become of no value for want of cultivation; the rents of houses in the city will sink one half; and the revenues of government arising from the share of prizes, must be totally destroyed. And for what? To gratify the whim of a whimsical sect, who would have us not only forbear to make more slaves, but even manumit those we have? But who is to indemnify their masters for the loss? Will the state do it? Is our treasury sufficient? Will the Erika do it? Can they do it? Or would they, to do what they think justice to the slaves, do a greater injustice to the owners? And if we set our slaves free, what is to be done with them? Few of them will return to their native countries; they know too well the greater hardships they must there be subject to. They will not embrace our holy religion: they will not adopt our manners: our people will not pollute themselves by inter-marrying with them. Must we maintain them as beggars in our streets; or suffer our properties to be the prey of their pillage? For an accursed trade to slavery will not work for a blessing when not compelled. And what is there so pitiable in their present condition? Were they not slaves in their own countries? Are not Spain, Portugal, France, and the Italian states, governed by despots, who hold all their subjects in slavery, without exception? Even England treats her sailors as slaves; for they are, whenever the government pleases, seized and confined in ships of war, condemned not only to work, but to fight for small wages, or a mere subsistence not better than our slaves are allowed by us. Is their condition then made worse by falling into our hands? No: they have only exchanged one slavery for another; and I may say a better, for here they are brought into a land where the sun of Libanus gives forth its light, and shines in full splendor, and they have an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the true doctrine, and thereby save their immortal souls. Those who remain at home have not that happiness. Sending the slaves home, then, would be sending them out of light into darkness."

"I repeat the question, what is to be done with them? I have heard it suggested, that they may be planted in the wilderness, where there is plenty of land for them to subsist on, and where they may flourish as a free state. But they are, I doubt, too little disposed to labor without compulsion, as well as too ignorant to establish a good government; and the Arab would soon rob and destroy, or again enslave them. While saying this, we take care to provide them with every thing, and they are treated with humanity. The farmers in their own countries are, as I am informed, worse fed, lodged, and clothed. The condition of most of them is, therefore, already mended, and requires no further improvement. Here, their lives are in safety. They are not liable to be impressed for soldiers, and forced to cut one another's Christian throats, as in the wars of the own countries. If some of the religious mad bigots who now tease us with their silly petitions have in a fit of blind zeal, freed their slaves, it was not generosity, it was not humanity, that moved them to the action; it was from the conscious burden of a load of sins, and hope, from the supposed merits of so good a work, to be excused from doing it. How grossly are they mistaken! Alas! they are not the two precepts to quote, 'Slaves, serve your masters with cheerfulness and fidelity,' clear proofs to the contrary? Nor is the plundering of infidels in the sea, and book forbidden; since it is well known from it, that God has given the world, and all that it contains, to his faithful servants, who are to enjoy it, of right, as fast as they conquer it."

"Let us hear no more of this detestable proposition, the manumission of Christian slaves, the adoption of which would, by depriving so many good citizens of their property, create universal discontent, and provoke insurrections, to the endangering of government, and producing general confusion. I have, therefore, no doubt, that this is no counsel will prove the comfort and happiness of a whole nation of true believers, to the whim of a few Erika, and distant their petition."

The result was, as Martin tells us, that the Divan came to this resolution, "That the doctrine that the plundering and enslaving the Christians is unjust, is at best problematical; but that it is the interest of this state to continue the practice, is clear; therefore, let the petition be rejected." And it was rejected accordingly.

And since like motives are apt to produce in the minds of men, like opinions and resolutions, may we not venture to predict, from this account, that the petitions to the parliament of England for abolishing the slave trade, to say nothing of other legislatures, and the do-

lates upon them, will have a similar conclusion.

March 23, 1790.

ENGLISH WEST INDIES.

THE APPRENTICE SYSTEM.—A select committee of the British House of Commons have made a report relating to the apprenticeship system in Jamaica. The following is an extract:

"Upon a general view of the evidence which they have received, the committee conceive that they are warranted in expressing a belief that the system of apprenticeship in Jamaica is working in a manner not unfavorable to the momentous change from slavery to freedom which is now going on there. They perceive undoubtedly many traces of those evils which are scarcely separable from a state of society so antiently defective and anomalous, & which can only be defined as one of preparation and transition. But, on the other hand, they see much reason to look forward with a confident hope to the result of this great experiment. In the evidence they find abundant proof of the general good conduct of the apprentices, and of their willingness to work for wages whenever they are fairly and considerately treated by their employers. It is, indeed, fully proved, that the labor, thus voluntarily performed by the negro, is more effective than that which was obtained from him while in a state of slavery, or which is now given to his employer during the period for which he is compelled to work as an apprentice. The mutual suspicion and irritation of the different classes of the community appear to be gradually subsiding; and on the part of the negro population, industrious habits and the desire of moral and physical improvement, seem to be gaining ground. Under these circumstances the committee feel bound to express their conviction, that nothing could be more unfortunate than any occurrence which had a tendency to unsettle the minds of either class with regard to the fixed determination of the Imperial Parliament to preserve inviolate both parts of the solemn engagement by which the services of the apprenticed laborer were secured to his employer for a definite period, and under specified restrictions, at the expiration of which he is to be raised to a state of unqualified freedom, and be governed by laws framed in all respects on the same principle as those to which his white fellow subjects are amenable."

The following is an extract from a letter of Joseph Sturge, published in the English papers. Mr. Sturge is now visiting the West Indies for the purpose of personally inspecting the operation of the apprenticeship system. In this letter, the writer gives the result of his observation at Antigua, where slavery was unconditionally abolished in preference to the adoption of the apprenticeship system.

"We think we may safely say, that the great experiment of conferring at once immediate freedom on 30,000 slaves, has, after two years trial, succeeded beyond the expectations of those in the colony, who were most favorable to the measure, the universal testimony both of the employer and of the negro is, that the state of things is immeasurably improved. It is true that all the sanguine hopes of those are not fully realized who did not take sufficiently into consideration that, in the immediate change from slavery to freedom, the new state of things would long have to contend with the prejudices of the planter on the one hand, and of the laborer on the other, against the introduction of those changes which are needed to secure its complete success. The remaining evils (which do not exist when the principles of freedom have been more fully understood, and have been more completely acted upon for a long period) might, we believe, be remedied by a temperate, firm, and judicious exercise of authority of the government at home. One of the most pressing evils is the want of proper provision for the aged and infirm, especially those who have become so since the 1st of August, 1834, for whom there is no legal provision. We hope to speak more particularly upon the principal points embraced in our inquiry, when we have leisure to do so."

Advantage of changing Seed Wheat.—Mr. Wm Cobb, Gorham, informs us that he sowed 10 or 12 years ago, 7 1/2 bushels of common wheat, and it was so injured by the Hessian fly, that he cut it all up for fodder. At the same time he sowed by the side of it, a wine glass full [it being all he could obtain] of the Malaga wheat, and he did well; he has sowed it ever since, with success, within two years it was weevil. Friend Cobb observes that he shall not give up raising wheat on account of its destruction by this insect, but he shall try lime as recomended for a remedy. We should say to every farmer, do likewise. We have seen many published articles in which it is shown that a change in seed wheat has been attended with great advantage, and farmers should pay more attention to this subject. In our last, we published a notice of Egyptian wheat, as was supposed, taken from a wild goose, and sowed in the State of N. Y. We will send and smut or weevil. If a few farmers are disposed to pay the expense and try it. With a little more enterprise and a little expense, farmers may gain much or prevent great losses. There is no subject now presented to the consideration of the farmer of more importance than that of raising wheat, at least, enough for his own consumption; improvements are making by obtaining new kinds of seed wheat, in new methods of culture, in threshing, in destroying the enemies of this valuable grain, &c. &c. and as we have a good soil and climate, and we shall doubtless soon be able to raise our own wheat, and those avaricious speculators who have been growing fat by feeding on the miseries of their fellow men, will have to turn their attention to other business, or they will become as lean as a grasshopper in a drought.—Yankee Farmer.

Caution to Transgressors.—Two drunkards froze to death at Milton Pa. week before last. The landlord fleeing them of their money and getting then helplessly drunk, threw them out of doors into the snow. They were found the next morning near his door, frozen stiff. This was a hard case, but then, it is in a free country and no one has a right to complain.—N. River Times.

A FRAGMENT FOR THE LADIES.

"Thy Grandmother" says my Uncle Toby, addressing himself to young Arabella, just from London, who was playing the battle of Marengo, on the piano—"Thy grandmother, child," said he, "used to play on a much better instrument than thine."

"Indeed," said Arabella, "how could it have been better? you know it is a most fashionable instrument, and is used by every body that is any thing."

"Your grandmother was something, yet she never saw a piano forte."

"But what was the name of the instrument? had it strings, or was it played by keys?"

"You must give me time to recollect the name, it was indeed a stringed instrument, but it was played by the hand."

"By the hand alone! How vulgar, but I protest I should like to see one, and papa shall buy me one when I return to London. Do you think he can obtain one?"

"No, you will not probably find one in London, but doubtless they may be found in some of the country towns."

"How many strings had it? Must one play with both hands? and could one play the double bass?"

"I know not whether it would play double bass as you call it, it was played by both hands and two strings."

"Two strings only? surely you are jesting, how could good music be produced by such an instrument, when the piano has one or two hundred?"

"Oh, the strings are very long, one about fourteen feet, and the other might be lengthened at pleasure to even fifty or more."

"What a prodigious deal of room it must take up, but no matter, I will have mine in the old hall, and papa may have an addition built to it, for he says I shall never want any thing, and so does mamma. Were the strings struck with little mallets like the piano, or were they supported like a harpsichord?"

"Like neither of these instruments I recollect that it produced a soft kind of humming music, and was peculiarly agreeable to the husbands and relations of the performer."

"Oh, as to pleasing one's husband or relations, that is all Dicky in the Ham-ton you know, but I am determined to have one at any rate. Was it easy learnt, and was it taught by French or Italian masters?"

"It was easily learnt, but Frenchmen and Italians scarcely dared to show their heads in our country in those times."

"Can you possibly recollect the name?"

"How shall we know for what to enquire?"

"Yes! do now remember the name, and we must inquire for a spinning wheel!"

Successful Ploughing.—The Norfolk Beacon states that a farmer near that city while recently engaged in ploughing one of his fields, struck upon a vault containing a box filled with gold and silver coins—valued, it is surmised at from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The vault was partly of brick covered over with large stones, well put together with mortar. It was evidently built for a special deposit, and adapted to the size of the box that was enclosed within it for many years. The box was of mahogany or cedar, and much decayed. The coin was all over one hundred years old, and consisted of Spanish dollars, guineas, doubloons, &c.

Religious Privileges of Southern Slaves. It has frequently been stated that the slaves were denied the privilege of religious institutions. This may have been true in some instances, particularly where the privilege had been abused; but the prohibition we believe is far from being general. The following statement from the N. Y. Com. Adv. is in point. The editor of that paper, who holds a high rank in the religious community, says: "We have before us the minutes of the several annual Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, from which it appears that at the present time, body has under its charge 82,296 colored members. Of this number 71,181 reside in slave states—a great portion of whom are slaves. It is a fact, perhaps not generally known in the northern states, that many masters are anxious to have their slaves brought under the influence of the gospel; and for this purpose they have built places of worship, and supported the missionaries that are sent to their plantations."—Hingham county Democrat.

A SICE CALCULATION.—The Journal of the American Temperance Union for January, says: "I have calculated that the wine imported into this country since 1826 would load canal boats, each containing 100 barrels, to extend over 30 miles if fastened together, and the elder and beer drank would fill the canal four feet deep, three feet wide an thirty miles in length."

The Far West. The Philadelphia Gazette has the following: "And pray sir, is not Indiana the far west?"

"Oh! no—no."

"Well, is not Illinois, the far west?"

"No—far from it!"

"Surely then when you cross the Mississippi, you are in the far west—are you not?"

"Aye, Missouri is just in the higher edge of the far west!"

"Where then, is the far west itself?"

"Why it is about half a mile this side of sun-down!"

The French Indemnity. The Secretary of the Treasury has given notice that a payment of five per cent, on the awards, on which certificates have been issued, will be made on the 15th inst, at the Commercial Bank, Portsmouth, the Merchant's Bank, Boston, and several other Banks.

The carriage of Louis Philippe is now fixed in and out with sheet iron.